

area, Admiral Boorda did, and he thought about moving down there after his retirement.

I thank the gentleman for taking the time. This is a great tragedy to our Nation.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, in ending, let me simply say that from time to time we lose individuals who are very special, very unique who have made an extraordinary contribution to their country and to their fellow citizens. Admiral Jeremy "Mike" Boorda was one of those.

May God bless him, and may God keep and bless his family.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

A WAR ON DRUGS REALLY SHOULD BE DECLARED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I took a 1-minute on the floor to discuss a problem that I think the American people demand we address. According to experts, 70 percent of all crime in this country is caused by people who are dealing in drugs or are drug related one way or another. Our kids are being infected by the drug culture. It is destroying our inner cities and our suburbs. It is causing a myriad of problems.

The prisons are filled with people who have dealt with drugs, used drugs, or committed crimes while under the influence of drugs, and each one of these people that are incarcerated cost up to \$30,000 a year to keep in jail. Yet the war on drugs goes on and on and on, and nothing seems to be accomplished.

We read every day that more and more people have been arrested, more cocaine has been picked up by the DEA, and yet we hear about tons and tons of cocaine that is getting past them into the United States, even though they are working very, very hard to keep that kind of thing out of here.

Now, I was in a place called the Upper Yuagua Valley in Peru about 4 years ago, and I found that 65 percent of all the coca in the world is produced in this one valley that is about 25 miles wide and about 150 to 200 miles long.

We know exactly where two-thirds of the world's coca is produced. And right across the border in Bolivia another 20 to 25 percent of the world's coca is produced. So about 90 percent of the world's coca that is turned into crack and cocaine that comes into our country and affects our kids and hurts our society and costs the taxpayers billions of dollars is in these two locations, and we are not doing a darn thing about it.

They have people down there we are paying to cut down these coca plants with a thing that is kind of like a metal weed-eater, and a good campesino cutting down these coca fields can only cut down about an acre a day. As fast as they cut it down, it is replaced tenfold by the drug dealers down there, the Medellin cartel and the others, and we cannot stop them. And we call this a war on drugs.

So I said to my colleagues this morning and I say to the administration and anybody else, Mr. Speaker, that might be paying attention, that if there is a war on drugs, I missed it. And if we do not really have a war on drugs, then let us declare a war on drugs. We could put an aircraft carrier off the coast of Peru, load it up with a herbicide called tebucyrone, or spike, and at 5 o'clock in the morning take off and fly up and down the Upper Yuagua Valley and drop these little pellets that are environmentally safe. We could do the same thing in Bolivia. We would have to fly a little bit further. But we could knock out 90 percent of the world's coca production in a week. I hope everybody is listening. In 1 week we could knock out 90 percent of the world's coca production. Now if you do not have coca, you cannot make coca paste, and if you do not have coca paste, you cannot make crack cocaine or cocaine. All of the chemicals that they use to perfect coca paste and make crack cocaine that is dumped into the tributaries that is going into the Amazon River and the other rivers down there, that will no longer be going into those rivers, thus infecting the environment and killing the environment.

So I would like to say to my colleagues today, if we really wanted to stop cocaine, or if we really want to destroy the poppy plants and heroin use in this country, we know where they are producing it. All we have to do is have the guts to go in there and destroy it. And we have the ability to do it.

Now, the State Department, I talked to them about it, and they said well, we cannot violate the territorial sanctity of a sovereign nation, meaning we cannot go across the border of Peru or Bolivia without their permission.

What are they going to do, shoot down our planes? Of course they would not do that. The fact of the matter is the war on drugs really is not a war on drugs; it is a hollow political statement that does not mean a darn thing. And we are spending billions of dollars nipping around the edges and our kids

continue to be infected with this sort of thing.

□ 1715

We could deal with it very quickly. So I want to say to my colleagues, in closing, there is a way to deal with it. Go down there and destroy the coca plants and they will not make crack cocaine. They will not make cocaine, and it will send a tremendous signal to the drug cartels around the world, and that is, if they plant that stuff, we are going to destroy it.

Now, some of my colleagues say, well, then they will start making designer drugs in the United States. Well, if they do that, we can nail them at their laboratories because we will be able to pinpoint those. Now we know where the coca is coming from and we are not doing a darn thing about it, and it is a crying shame because it is killing American citizens.

TRIBUTE TO SAM RAGAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great journalist, a great poet, a great North Carolinian, a great American—Sam Ragan—who died Saturday, May 11, 1996.

Born, Samuel Talmadge Ragan, 80 years ago in Granville County, Sam was devoted to his wife of 56 years, Marjorie, their two daughters, Talmadge and Nancy, his two grandchildren Robin and Eric, his family and a host of friends. He was also devoted to his community, to North Carolina and the people who call them home.

Consider his poem:

THE MARKED AND UNMARKED

I cannot say upon which luminous evening
I shall go out beyond the stars,
To windless spaces and unmarked time,
Turning nights to days and days to nights.
This is the place where I live.

I planted this tree.

I watched it grow.

The leaves fall and I scuff them with my feet.

This is the street on which I walk,

I have walked it many times.

Sometimes it seems there are echoes of my walking—

In the mornings, in the nights,

In those long evenings of silence and stars

—the unmarked stars.

During his life Sam marked the way for those who would come after him. His résumé was long, varied, and impressive. His accolades and awards too numerous to list. After college graduation, he began his career in journalism when journalists were men of letters.

As an editor in Wilmington, NC, early in his career, when Sam needed a sportswriter, he hired a young man named David Brinkley. In 1941, Sam joined the Raleigh News and Observer as State editor.

During World War II, he served in Army Intelligence for 3 years and then